

JC20 Rec'd PCT/EP 11 OCT 2003

Bosch 10191/3984

Box No. II. Priority

1. The following document has not yet been furnished:

copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43bis.1 and 66.7(a))

**Box No. V. Reasoned statement under Rulebis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step,
or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-11	yes
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-11	yes
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-11	yes

2. Citations and explanations

see supplementary page

Re Section V.

1. The following document is referred to in the present Action:

D1: DE 33 01 742 A (ROBERT BOSCH GMBH) 7/26/84

2. Claims 1, 9, and 11

Document D1 is regarded as the closest related art. It discloses a method for operating an internal combustion engine in a state of trailing throttle, having the steps:

enabling the monitoring of a trigger signal for a power actuator of the internal combustion engine, when predetermined enabling conditions that include the exceeding of an enabling rotational speed of the internal combustion engine are satisfied;
after the enabling, comparing a trigger signal for the power actuator of the internal combustion engine to a threshold value; and
triggering an error reaction, when the trigger signal exceeds the threshold value.

The subject matter of independent Claim 1 differs from D1 in that the enabling rotational speed is varied as a function of the action of an idle speed control device.

Therefore, the subject matter of Claim 1 is novel (Article 33(2) PCT). Thus the object to be achieved by the present invention can be regarded as being able to select the enabling rotational speed to be low, without judging regular demands of the idle speed control device to be an error.

In addition, the idea of a variable, enabling rotational speed is neither known from, nor anticipated by, the remaining related art. Therefore, Claim 1 is based on an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

This also applies to independent Claims 9 and 11, which relate to the corresponding control unit and the use of this control unit.

3. Dependent Claims

Claims 2-8 are dependent from Claim 1, and Claim 10 is dependent from Claim 9. Thus, they likewise satisfy the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty and inventive step.